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Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 35 of Security Council resolution 2232 (2015), in which the Council requested me to report on the implementation of the resolution, including the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) by 12 September. The report covers the major developments that occurred during the period from 1 May to 31 August 2015.

II. Political and security overview

A. Political developments

2. The Federal Government of Somalia accelerated efforts to advance the process of building a federal state. However, on 28 July, the Federal Parliament passed a resolution indicating that a country-wide "one-person-one-vote" election would not be possible in 2016 owing to delays in the political process and remaining technical and security challenges, confirming the consensus that had emerged among key stakeholders. On 15 August, the Federal Government circulated an action plan setting out arrangements for national consultations to agree on options for a yet to be defined "electoral process" to replace the current members of the Somali Federal Government and Parliament when their terms expire in 2016.

3. Political tensions re-emerged when, on 12 August, Members of the Federal Parliament submitted a motion to the Office of the Speaker for the impeachment of President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud. The motion, signed by 95 Members of Parliament out of a total of 275, accused the President of extensive corruption, infringement of the Constitution and poor leadership. A swift resolution appeared to be unlikely. International partners called on the Somali federal institutions to maintain their unity and cohesion and to focus on the priorities set by Somalis for the wider peace process.

4. There was overall progress on the formation of federal states throughout the country. On 7 May, the Juba Regional Assembly was inaugurated in Kismaayo, Juba Hoose, amid criticism from some parties over inclusiveness. On 6 June, the Federal Parliament passed a motion to "terminate" the Juba Regional Assembly, a decision

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that was rejected by the Interim Juba Administration. While the Federal Government has established a ministerial committee to resolve the issue, it has yet to begin work. The Juba Regional Assembly subsequently elected Sheikh Ahmed Islam "Madobe", leader of the Interim Juba Administration, as President of the Interim Juba Administration on 15 August. He called on the Assembly to work with him to resolve the issues over its composition. On 9 August, in the Interim South-West Administration, President Sharif Hassan Sheikh Aden, formally launched the process to form a South-West Regional Assembly.

5. In mid-June, a state formation conference took place in Cadaado, Galguduud region, for the purpose of creating the new Galmudug Interim Administration in the central regions. The conference formed a regional assembly which, on 4 July, elected Abdikarim Hussein Guled as President. The Ahlu Sunna wal Jama'a group, which occupies parts of the Galguduud region, including Dhuusamarreeb, boycotted the process. On 27 August, however, factions from the group entered into an agreement with the Galmudug Interim Administration to join the state in exchange for political and constitutional concessions. Puntland's administration initially denounced the Galmudug Interim Administration as unconstitutional, owing partly to its claim over northern Mudug region, which was long considered to be part of Puntland. Following discussions between the Federal Prime Minister and the President of Puntland, the Galmudug Interim Administration revised its constitution on 29 July to remove any claim to northern Mudug.

6. On 8 August, the Federal Government launched a process to form an interim administration for the Hiraan and Shabelle Dhexe regions by 1 December 2015. The process will be managed by a technical committee and overseen by a steering group comprising 12 Federal Cabinet Ministers from the area and local governors.

7. In "Somaliland", the upper legislative chamber, the House of Elders (*Guurti*) announced on 11 May a 22-month term extension of the term of office of President Ahmed Mohamed Mohamud "Silanyo", thereby delaying the elections that had been scheduled to be held in June 2016 until March 2017. Following protests and consultations, the authorities and the opposition parties agreed on 27 May to reschedule the elections for mid-December 2016. However, tensions remained high, as the *Guurti* failed to revise its decision in line with the agreement. On 18 August, in response to a request from the "Somaliland" authorities for a legal decision, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of the *Guurti*'s decision, and set the election timeline for March 2017.

B. Security developments

8. The holy month of Ramadan and the preceding weeks saw an increase in attacks by Al-Shabaab in central and south-central Somalia. On 18 June, the first day of Ramadan, security forces in Cadaado thwarted a complex attack by three gunmen who attempted to enter the venue of the central regions state formation conference after detonating a vehicle laden with explosives; the four attackers were the only casualties.

9. On 11 June, a convoy of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was ambushed by a large number of Al-Shabaab fighters at Jama'a village, Bay region. A reinforcement of AMISOM troops to Jama'a was ambushed twice by Al-Shabaab on 12 June. On 26 June, over 100 Al-Shabaab fighters stormed an

AMISOM base in Leego, Bay Region, after detonating a vehicle-borne bomb, resulting in a significant number of AMISOM casualties, and several soldiers of the mission were reported as missing in action. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility, citing its Abu Zubeyr Battalion, a new military unit named after the late Al-Shabaab leader.

10. In Kismaayo, a training camp of the Somali national army located at the old Kismaayo airport was targeted with a car bomb on 22 August, resulting in at least 18 fatalities among Somali national army personnel and injuries to at least 44 others, including three AMISOM soldiers.

11. In Mogadishu, during Ramadan, there was a surge in targeted assassinations and complex attacks, for which Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility. On 10 July, 11 civilians were reported killed and at least 20 injured in two consecutive complex attacks at two hotels. On 25 July, a Member of Parliament was killed in a drive-by shooting together with his bodyguard and driver. On 26 July, a truck laden with explosives detonated outside the Jazeera Palace Hotel, killing 15 people, including one member of the Chinese diplomatic mission residing at the hotel. The blast caused significant damage to the hotel and nearby buildings, including United Nations compounds on Airport Road. Al-Shabaab stated that the attack had targeted foreign diplomatic entities housed inside the hotel. Another car bomb attack was carried out by Al-Shabaab on 22 August, targeting a restaurant frequented by Somali security personnel, resulting in the death of 6 people, including 2 civilians, and injuries to 18 others.

12. On 19 July, AMISOM and Somali security forces, together with the Ethiopian and Kenyan Defence Forces, launched a new joint military operation, codenamed "Operation Juba Corridor", aimed at expelling Al-Shabaab from its last remaining strongholds in south-central Somalia. The troops seized Baardheere, Gedo region, and Diinsoor, Bay region, on 23 and 24 July, respectively. Diinsoor had been presumed to be the headquarters of Al-Shabaab since the fall of Baraawe in October 2014. AMISOM also targeted suspected Al-Shabaab positions in the Hiraan and Galguduud regions.

13. In Puntland, sporadic Al-Shabaab activities continued. On 8 May, Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the assassination of a Member of Puntland's Parliament and his bodyguard in north Gaalkacyo. Following the ongoing operation in south-central Somalia, there have been reports of a northward movement of Al-Shabaab towards the Galgala Mountains. This could expose Puntland to an increased threat of attacks by Al-Shabaab. Meanwhile, on 1 August, Puntland President Abdiweli Mohamed Ali "Gaas" renewed an amnesty offer for Al-Shabaab insurgents for another month, calling on the insurgents to take advantage of the offer or face a renewed military offensive.

14. Separately, in the Sool and Sanaag regions, tensions were reported on 4 May and 15 June following a Puntland military build-up around Tukaraq, Sool Region, and armed clashes between the "Somaliland" army and a militia that supports the separatist "Khatumo" movement.

III. Support for peacebuilding and State-building efforts

A. International coordination and political support

15. Throughout the reporting period, my Special Representative, Nicholas Kay, worked closely with federal, regional and international stakeholders to support the ongoing political process. He visited Kismaayo on 18 June to encourage the Federal Government and the Interim Juba Administration to resolve their differences over the Juba Regional Assembly. He also offered strategic advice and good offices to the Federal Government on the state formation process for the central regions, encouraging all stakeholders to ensure inclusiveness and outreach towards remaining stakeholders and to resolve the dispute with Puntland. He attended the inauguration of the President of the Galmudug Interim Administration in Cadaado on 23 July and the signing on 8 August of the state formation process agreement for the Shabelle Dhexe and Hiraan regions. He also continued to facilitate coordinated approaches by the international community to the political process in Somalia, including through joint public statements and briefings.

16. International support to Somalia's peacebuilding and State-building process continued to be coordinated through the "New Deal" Compact mechanisms. Work progressed on the operationalization of the United Nations joint programmes, developed and approved through the architecture of the Compact. By the end of the reporting period, the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund had received multi-year pledges totalling $113 million, of which $18.9 million had been disbursed.

17. On 29 and 30 July in Mogadishu, Federal President Mohamud and my Special Representative co-chaired the second Ministerial meeting of the High-level Partnership Forum, the main platform for high-level policy dialogue and strategic coordination for implementation of the Compact. This was the largest international conference held in Mogadishu for at least 25 years. Participants included representatives of the Interim South-West Administration, the Galmudug Interim Administration and Banadir; Members of the Federal Parliament; the chair of the National Independent Electoral Commission; representatives of civil society; and 32 international delegations. The Interim Juba Administration and Puntland leaders, who did not attend, subsequently endorsed the outcomes of the High-level Partnership Forum.

18. The Forum reviewed progress on the New Deal to date, set expectations for the remainder of 2015, and agreed to undertake a review of implementation by the end of 2015. Participants recognized that a one-person-one-vote election would not be possible in 2016, endorsed a set of guiding principles for an alternative "electoral process", and confirmed their expectation that the state formation process would be concluded in 2015.

19. Participants also agreed on the need to accelerate the delivery of results at the level of the citizenry, while strengthening government ownership and visibility. Specific measures were proposed which are to be finalized by September 2015. Government progress on the establishment of financial accountability and transparency was welcomed, as was the International Monetary Fund article IV consultation on Somalia that took place in Nairobi from 8 to 18 June.

B. Inclusive politics

Development of a federal system

20. Work continued to build the legal basis for emerging federal entities described above. The interim constitution of the Galmudug Interim Administration was adopted on 17 June. On 1 August, the interim constitution for "Jubaland State" was unanimously approved in Kismaayo by 300 delegates representing Juba Hoose, Juba Dhexe and Gedo regions.

21. On 6 July, the Federal Parliament approved the Government's nominations for members of the Boundaries and Federation Commission, who will be responsible for advising Parliament on the establishment of boundaries for Federal Member States, regional administrations and districts of the Federal Republic of Somalia. The commissioners elected their chairpersons on 27 July and began work on their action plan, with the support of the United Nations and other partners.

22. UNSOM and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are finalizing consultations with the Peacebuilding Support Office for the release of monies from the Peacebuilding Fund to support the Federal Government and emerging interim regional administrations to convene 10 local reconciliation conferences and three minority rights conferences in south-central Somalia.

23. During July and August, UNSOM produced a radio talk show — aired on Radio Mogadishu — on federalism and State-building, as part of a nationwide civic education campaign. The programme reached over 4 million listeners and received a record number of roughly 2,500 listener interactions. The programme is now being distributed on social media, targeting the Somali diaspora. UNSOM also produced two television talk shows on federalism and State-building, which are being broadcast on Somalia's largest television station and over social media.

24. In partnership with the Ministry of Information and Somali journalist associations, UNSOM held two training workshops for more than 75 journalists in Baidoa, Bay region, and Kismaayo to increase understanding of federalism and the peace- and State-building processes.

Constitutional review process

25. There were further delays to the review of the Provisional Federal Constitution as a result of the resignation of Asha Gelle Diriye as Chair of the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission, and continuing lack of clarity of the respective roles and responsibilities of the key national implementing institutions. However, on 27 July, the Federal Parliament approved drafting instructions by its Oversight Committee to the Independent Constitutional Review and Implementation Commission, and unanimously appointed Mohammed Dahir Afrah as the Chair of the Commission. Subsequently, the Commission, with the Oversight Committee and the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs, continued to prepare for the review process.

26. On 18 August, the UNDP Country Director and the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs signed a letter of agreement for the implementation of the United Nations Constitutional Support Project Initiation Plan, which includes providing accommodations and offices for the members of the Commission.

Preparations for elections

27. In a major milestone, on 6 July, the Federal Parliament endorsed the nine nominees of the Federal Government for the National Independent Electoral Commission. The Commission elected Halima Ismail Ibrahim as its Chair. UNSOM and UNDP, through the United Nations Integrated Electoral Support Group, established temporary offices for the Elections Commission and began work to identify and support the commissioners' needs.

28. The Department of Political Affairs conducted an election "pre-assessment" mission to Somalia from 6 to 11 July and met with Government, civil society and international stakeholders to assess prospects for conducting a constitutional referendum and national elections by September 2016. The team noted broad consensus among its interlocutors that one-person-one-vote elections in 2016 were not feasible in the light of the delays encountered in the political process as well as the remaining technical and security challenges. However, it also found that, in general, there was a strong commitment to a more legitimate and inclusive process for a change of administration at the end of the terms of the current members of Parliament. The team further noted the expectation that the United Nations would support the Federal Government in developing options for the alternative "electoral process" in 2016 and would deploy a needs assessment mission to assist the National Independent Electoral Commission in preparing for general elections at a later date.

C. Rule of law and security institutions

Security sector assistance and reform

29. International support for the Guulwade (Victory) Plan to develop the capacity of the Somali national army has been limited to date. An implementation team for the plan, comprising technical representatives from the Ministry of Defence, the Somali national army, AMISOM, UNSOM, the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA), the European Union Training Mission, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was established in May and is working on the execution of the plan.

30. The National Integration Commission, inaugurated on 12 May, reached agreement with the Federal Government and the Interim Juba Administration on the numbers of personnel to be integrated into the Somali national army in Jubaland (340 from Gedo, 1,000 from Juba Dhexe and 1,540 from Juba Hoose). The Commission developed a timeline for integration of personnel in 2015 and 2016 on a regional basis. On 26 July, 1,350 personnel were officially integrated into the Somali national army; military training is ongoing. UNSOM and UNSOA continue to provide technical and logistical support to the Commission.

31. A total of 16,780 members of the Somali national army and 5,200 personnel of the Somali police force were biometrically registered in the human resources system by the end of August. The Security Sector Expenditure Task Force held its first meeting on 17 August. The Task Force is formulating recommendations on the payment of salaries and stipends, recognizing the need for sustainable arrangements for swift disbursement and the importance of a harmonized payroll system for security forces.

32. During the High-level Partnership Forum, it was agreed that greater focus was required on a national security architecture, as current security sector governance and oversight structures remain largely insufficient. Progress in this regard continues to be hampered by political challenges, in particular with regard to the State-building and constitutional review processes. UNSOM and UNDP continue to offer support through strategic assistance on the security aspects of the constitutional process.

Police

33. The Police Working Group endorsed the initial concept of the Heegan (Readiness) Plan for the development of the Somali police force, including in the recovered areas. Finalization of the plan is expected by October.

34. Following the signing in May of memorandums of understanding between the Federal Government and the Interim Juba Administration and the Interim South-West Administration, respectively, on the establishment of a regional police, UNSOM assisted with the screening and vetting of 200 prospective police officers in Baidoa. A three-month training course for those officers commenced in August. Also in August, vetting and screening of 200 officers took place in Kismaayo. UNSOM and AMISOM provided technical advice to the Federal Government and the interim regional administrations on a model for a federal structure of policing in Somalia and are facilitating a comprehensive dialogue with regional and federal stakeholders to agree on adequate structures within a federal security sector architecture.

35. UNSOM provided a two-week training course on close protection to prepare the police forces in Beledweyne, Hiraan region, to protect judicial personnel. With support from the Government of Japan, the United Nations completed the installation of a digital radio communication network that enables full coverage for police operations in Mogadishu. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) provided operational and financial support and training to the police explosive ordnance disposal units in Baidoa, Beledweyne and Mogadishu.

36. As at August, the Federal Ministry of Internal Security, with support from United Nations and AMISOM police teams, had undertaken training for 151 officers of the Somali police force to be deployed to newly recovered areas. The intent is to deploy basic civilian law enforcement capacity comprising 10 officers of the Somali police force (two commanders and eight field officers) and 35 locally recruited community security officers in each of the 13 districts recovered from Al-Shabaab.

Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration

37. The Federal Government continued to implement its national programme for disengaging combatants. In June, the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) signed a memorandum of understanding to implement a project to provide immediate support to the Federal Government in managing safe houses for disengaging female combatants of Al-Shabaab and their dependants. Military operations against Al-Shabaab resulted in an increase in the number of surrendering and captured combatants being placed in the national programme, which raised questions concerning the voluntary nature of the process, as well as the status of combatants captured during combat. Owing to a lack of

transitional centres and rehabilitation services, some former fighters are being accommodated in private homes or temporary shelters.

38. UNSOM continued to monitor the compliance of rehabilitation facilities with international human rights standards in line with the national programme. However, a lack of funding has reduced the capacity for monitoring. Furthermore, access to two centres was prevented by the previous management, which limited the monitoring of conditions. The present management has confirmed access for United Nations monitoring.

39. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continued to provide community-based child reintegration services to 625 children (502 boys and 123 girls) formerly associated with armed forces or groups, including Al-Shabaab, Ahlu Sunna wal Jama'a and others. UNICEF also supports other children at risk in Baidoa, Afgoye, Mogadishu and Beledweyne districts.

Maritime security

40. In July, a working group on capacity-building for Somalia's Navy and Coast Guard was launched with UNSOM support. UNSOM provided technical assistance to the Federal Government in the drafting of the Coast Guard Law and worked with the Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea of the Secretariat of the United Nations to deliver a five-day capacity-building workshop on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for Somali Government officials.

Mine action

41. On 15 June, the Somalia Explosive Management Authority assumed responsibility for coordination of all mine action activities, an important step towards full national ownership in this area. In May, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) began a community-based pilot project to address explosive hazards on the Somali-Ethiopian border, which will also provide employment opportunities.

42. In July and August, UNMAS and UNSOM trained 25 members of the Somali national army, the National Intelligence and Security Agency, the Custodial Corps and the National Security Adviser's Office in the destruction of small arms and light weapons.

Justice and corrections

43. Following its approval by the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility, the Somalia Joint Rule of Law Programme was endorsed by the Federal Government and international donors on 27 May during the inaugural Programme Steering Committee meeting. Donors contributed $60 million to the programme, in addition to bilateral support. Additional support is urgently needed for the swift implementation of the programme.

44. United Nations agencies are engaging with key justice institutions, including the Federal Ministry of Justice and the Attorney General's Office, as well as regional states and civil society partners, to prepare the implementation of the programme.

45. UNSOM assisted the Federal Ministry of Justice in assessing the priority training needs of judges, prosecutors and registrars in the interim administrations and to develop training on basic professional skills.

46. The Federal Government announced the *Onkod* ("Thunder") Plan to build a more effective Custodial Corps through legislative reform, organizational restructuring and infrastructure development. UNSOM provided advice on the plan. More than 620 members of prison staff have so far been registered in an ongoing human resources system project that will enhance financial oversight and accountability for the Custodial Corps.

D. Economic foundations

47. In June, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) completed its first Article IV consultation mission to Somalia in 25 years, a key milestone for Somalia's debt forgiveness process and access to concessional lending. The mission noted that current growth in gross domestic product (GDP), driven by the agriculture, construction and telecommunications sectors, would be insufficient to address poverty and gender disparities.

48. The Federal Government initiated the process for building a national development plan upon the work under Peace- and State-building Goals 4 and 5 of the New Deal Compact, laying the foundation for sustainable economic recovery and development. The plan will be in compliance with requirements of the interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, which will help Somalia in its application for status as a heavily indebted poor country.

49. In May, the Somalia Development and Reconstruction Facility Steering Committee approved the United Nations Joint Programme on Youth Employment, which aims to catalyse growth in labour-intensive sectors and provide Somali youth with skills tailored to emerging market needs and short-term employment opportunities. Approval was also given for two World Bank initiatives aimed at supporting development of the Somali power sector, as well as the private and financial sectors, to catalyse private investment and job creation.

50. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continued to support the livestock, agriculture and fisheries sectors at both government and local community levels. Interventions were launched in August to vaccinate 14 million livestock and treat 1.5 million more over three months. FAO is also providing financial support to over 30,000 households for the rehabilitation of productive infrastructure through a cash-for-work programme. The International Labour Organization has created employment opportunities for over 11,000 households among Somali returnees from Kenya, internally displaced persons and host communities.

E. Revenue and services

51. The World Bank continued to support the Federal Government in strengthening public financial management and financial governance. A five-year package was agreed for support to recurrent costs linked to policy measures and macro-fiscal management, as well as a package to support priority reforms of public

financial management. With financial management information systems, interim instruments and fiscal rules in place, efforts are now required to ensure their systematic implementation. Those instruments also form the basis of the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund's new National Window, designed to channel funds directly to Government entities in support of key peacebuilding priorities.

52. Scaling up service delivery across Somalia remains a priority. An essential package of health services has so far reached over 4.2 million people. A Somali National Health Policy and other policies related to immunization and reproductive health were adopted in June. Examinations for over 7,000 children were held in June, the first centralized examination for students completing secondary school in Somalia since 1991. In the absence of a teacher payroll system, approximately 250,000 children are benefiting from teachers being paid incentives. Major funding gaps remain for provision of non-formal education opportunities for overage children.

53. The United Nations Joint Programme on Local Governance continued to have considerable success in Puntland and "Somaliland" with the adoption of decentralization policies and roadmaps, strengthened district-level administrative and financial management systems, and improved revenue generation and local government planning. Key ministries in Puntland and "Somaliland" commenced decentralized service delivery pilots, advancing the decentralization of core functions in sectors such as health, education and road development. The Joint Programme on Local Governance expanded support to the Interim Juba Administration and the Interim South-West Administration, applying lessons learned from Puntland and "Somaliland".

F. Cross-cutting issues

Stabilization

54. Efforts continued to coordinate Government, AMISOM and international efforts with respect to stabilization of districts recovered from Al-Shabaab, including the deployment of police capacity. Of the districts recovered under "Operation Eagle" and "Operation Indian Ocean", Qoryooley and Leego were briefly retaken by Al-Shabaab but an AMISOM presence was restored in both places. Activity carried out by Al-Shabaab reduced freedom of movement around Tayeeglow, with consequences for the humanitarian situation and reconciliation activities. Interim district administrators were deployed to the newly recovered Diinsoor district, while negotiations began on the interim district administration for Baardheere.

55. Activities funded by the Peacebuilding Fund Immediate Response Facility in support of the efforts of the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs to stabilize in newly recovered areas were initiated by UNDP and UNSOM. Of the caretaker administrations being established in 13 districts, monies disbursed from the Peacebuilding Fund are providing budget support for the eight currently functioning administrations. The Federal Government has deployed Community Liaison Officers and Local Governance Assistants to those districts to strengthen the caretaker governments and to lay the foundation for establishing interim district administrations. District Peace and Stabilization Committees have been established

in seven districts to support reconciliation, dialogue and inclusion processes with citizens.

Human rights

56. Civilian casualties were a major concern during the reporting period. Violent clan conflicts and military operations by AMISOM, the Ethiopian National Defence Forces and the Somali national army resulted in 113 reported civilian casualties. These included 37 victims of violent clan fighting in the Jubaland and Hiraan regions, the latter reportedly also involving the Somali national army. A total of 22 civilians were allegedly killed by AMISOM troops during operations in Marka in Shabelle Hoose on 21 and 31 July. In early August in Hiraan, AMISOM reportedly killed a further five civilians and injured six, all of whom were passengers in a minibus. Twenty-eight civilians were reportedly killed during Ethiopian National Defence Forces/Somali national army operations in the Bakool region and 15 were killed during air strikes carried out by the Ethiopian National Defence Forces in July. UNSOM conducted an independent verification mission to Marka and has called for independent and thorough investigations into the incidents. AMISOM conducted a mission to Marka jointly with the Federal Government to meet with the affected communities and has indicted suspected perpetrators, instituted a Board of Inquiry and expressed a commitment to hold perpetrators to account. Other civilian casualties were attributed to Al-Shabaab insurgents, unidentified assailants or fighting between Somali national army/AMISOM personnel and Al-Shabaab. About 30 abductions were reported to have been carried out by suspected elements of Al-Shabaab.

57. Cases of arbitrary arrest and detention were reported. Following security operations, 185 people were arrested throughout Somalia on security-related issues, and most of them were released within 48 hours.

58. Application of the death penalty continued during the reporting period. Three executions were carried out in Mogadishu and one in Baidoa, while two death sentences were handed down in Mogadishu in June.

59. The Independent Expert on the Human Rights Situation in Somalia, Tom Nyanduga, visited Somalia from 20 to 29 May and will present his report to the Human Rights Council in September 2015.

Gender equality and women's empowerment

60. UNSOM actively lobbied and supported Somali women's organizations and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development to advocate for the participation of women in political processes at the federal and regional levels. In June, UNSOM facilitated separate missions by the Somali Women's Leadership Initiative and the Minister for Women to Cadaado to enable women leaders to advocate and negotiate with federal, regional and local authorities for the participation of women in the central regions state formation process. Women ultimately secured 8 of 64 seats in the newly formed Galmudug state assembly.

61. In July, the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development, with vigorous campaigning and support by UNSOM, played a vital role in the endorsement of two women commissioners for the National Independent Electoral Commission, one of whom was selected in July as the Commission's Chair. Support

from UNSOM also enabled the Somali Women's Leadership Initiative and Men Solidarity Group for Women's Rights to participate in the Interim Juba Administration Constituent Assembly, where they advocated for constitutional provisions to protect the rights of women and girls.

Child protection

62. At least 746 cases of grave violations against children were documented in the reporting period. Reported incidents affected 689 children, comprising 567 boys and 122 girls, and mostly implicated elements of Al-Shabaab and the Somali national army. In the current reporting period, only one case of defection from Al-Shabaab by a child was recorded.

63. On 4 June, UNSOM held an orientation workshop to promote awareness in the Somali national army of issues faced by children in armed conflict and on the mainstreaming of child protection into the policies and activities of the Somali national army. On 8 June, the United Nations supported the Child Protection Unit of the Somali national army to inspect troops gathered for militia integration in Kismaayo, resulting in 36 children being screened out. From 9 to 13 June, the United Nations Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting supported members of the Child Protection Unit to travel to Uganda to learn from the successful implementation of its plan to stop recruitment and use of children in the Uganda People's Defence Force.

Prevention of sexual violence

64. During the reporting period, UNSOM provided support to the Somali police force to ensure the integration of women's protection and conflict-related sexual violence concerns into the Heegan Plan. Efforts are also under way to incorporate conflict-related and sexual violence protection measures into the militia integration process of the Somali national army. UNSOM continued its efforts to sensitize civilian and military judicial system stakeholders to due process in cases of sexual violence. Through the support of the United Nations Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, four prosecutors and judges received training at the Regional Training Facility on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in the Great Lakes Region, held in Kampala from 10 to 13 August.

65. UNSOM also conducted training of trainers in sexual and gender-based violence and basic investigation skills in cooperation with AMISOM. Those trainers will be assigned to provide basic and ongoing training to new and experienced investigators.

66. On 18 August, my Special Representative briefed senior officers of the United Nations Guard Unit on the zero tolerance policy of the United Nations towards sexual exploitation and abuse and on my special measures for protection against such exploitation and abuse.

IV. Humanitarian situation

67. The humanitarian situation in Somalia remains fragile. Inter-agency contingency planning is under way for up to 900,000 people in Somalia who could

be affected by possible major flooding in the Shabelle and Juba areas owing to the El Niño phenomenon in 2015. The number of Somalis in need of food assistance is predicted to increase through December, primarily in Shabelle Dhexe, owing to flooding, and in the agropastoral areas of Awdal, Hiraan and Juba Dhexe owing to erratic *Gu* rainfall from April to June.

68. Food security conditions are expected to improve in livestock-dependent livelihood zones owing to an improvement in livestock herd size and favourable prices. However, there continues to be a high residual level of acute malnutrition, with 731,000 Somalis who are unable to meet their basic food needs and a further 2.3 million people who are at risk. An estimated 12 per cent of children under five years of age (202,600) are acutely malnourished, including 38,200 who are severely malnourished and face a high risk of mortality.

69. Over 1.1 million Somalis remain in protracted displacement, most of whom are food insecure. The joint Somali national army-AMISOM operations in the Juba Corridor have triggered additional displacements. Forced evictions continue to cause protection concerns.

70. The situation in Yemen has added additional stress to the already stretched humanitarian response system. As at 19 July, more than 28,000 people had arrived in Somalia from Yemen, more than 90 per cent of whom are Somalis. Humanitarian organizations established reception centres for returnees at the ports of Boosaaso in Puntland and Berbera in Somaliland, jointly with the local authorities.

71. The volatile security situation continues to make the delivery of humanitarian assistance extremely dangerous. In the first six months of 2015, over 70 incidents involving humanitarian organizations were reported, accounting for nine deaths and five abductions. Despite the challenges, humanitarian organizations continue to use innovative ways to deliver humanitarian assistance, including the use of community networks, local organizations, private transport companies and air cargo.

72. In the first six months of 2015, an estimated 658,000 Somalis were assisted through various interventions, countrywide acute malnutrition levels were lowered from 14.9 to 12 per cent, and the number of people unable to meet their minimum food needs reduced to 731,000 from over 1 million. The one-year mark since the last reported case of polio in Somalia was crossed on 11 August.

73. UNICEF provided cash assistance to 61,200 vulnerable people through the end of the main pastoral lean season in June, and will continue to provide support to 39,000 individuals through September. Nutrition cluster partners reached 23,877 acutely malnourished children and 2,638 malnourished pregnant and lactating women with lifesaving treatment services. Since May 2015, water, sanitation and hygiene cluster partners have provided support to 185,000 people with access to safe water, 25,000 people gained access to sanitation facilities, and 270,000 people received hygiene kits and/or materials designed to promote hygiene.

74. Most government institutions continue to lack basic capacities to implement their mandates, including human resources, guiding policies and infrastructure. World Bank and UNDP projects to support capacity development in core government functions have been approved.

75. Inter-agency humanitarian assessment missions were undertaken to identify urgent needs in newly recovered Baardheere and Diinsoor. More than 14 humanitarian

organizations are currently active in the two towns and more are expected to begin work as the situation improves.

V. Targeted sanctions

76. During the informal consultations of the Security Council Committee on Somalia and Eritrea on 1 May, the Committee was briefed on the implementation of the charcoal ban by the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, the Combined Maritime Forces and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The Committee Chair briefed the Security Council on 16 July. In August, the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group commenced the drafting of its final report, which the Committee is scheduled to consider on 9 October.

VI. Implementation of resolutions 2124 (2013), 2182 (2014) and 2232 (2015)

Support to AMISOM and the Somali national army

77. By its resolution 2232 (2015), the Security Council endorsed the recommendations of the Joint African Union-United Nations Review Mission that were outlined in my letter of 2 July to the President of the Council. From 17 to 25 August, AMISOM convened a meeting in Nairobi to revise its concept of operations in consultation with the United Nations and relevant partners. The draft revised concept of operations will be reviewed by the African Union Commission before being approved by the African Union Peace and Security Council.

78. Field visits for the UNSOA strategic review were conducted from 30 July to 8 August in Addis Ababa, Somalia and Nairobi and included consultations with the Federal Government, AMISOM, the African Union, Member States, UNSOM and other UNSOA clients. The review seeks to provide options for UNSOA to remain fit for purpose in response to the strategic objectives of the United Nations in Somalia. The final report of the strategic review will be submitted by 30 September, in accordance with resolution 2232 (2015).

79. UNSOA continued to provide logistics support to AMISOM across all sectors in south-central Somalia, with an increased burden on its air assets owing to insecurity along and inaccessibility of main supply routes. The force enabling units envisaged in resolution 2124 (2013) have not yet been deployed. The provision of potable water to the sectors continued to be a challenge, and UNSOA is expediting a borehole drilling programme and the distribution of water treatment plants. Following the attack on 26 July at the Jazeera Palace Hotel, there is an urgent need for additional accommodation facilities at Mogadishu International Airport.

80. From 10 July to 6 August, UNSOA supported the rotation of Ethiopian, Burundian and Ugandan troops, as well as a Ugandan formed police unit of 140 personnel. UNSOA also provided support to the rotation of the Ugandan United Nations Guard Unit, consisting of 410 troops, and the deployment of an additional 120 troops from Uganda to the Guard Unit, bringing the force strength to 530, as indicated in my letter of 6 April to the President of the Security Council (S/2015/234).

81. Discussions among the African Union, the United Nations and the Government of Uganda on the letter of assist for the deployment of Ugandan military helicopters are at an advanced stage. UNSOA conducted predeployment and in-mission training for 713 AMISOM personnel during the reporting period, including training for the Uganda aviation unit, in preparation for the deployment of six Ugandan helicopters. UNSOA also conducted medical evacuation, repatriation and redeployment of 248 AMISOM personnel, and issued 3,000 individual first aid kits to troops of the Somali national army.

82. While the previously trained and registered 9,157 Somali national army troops continued to benefit from UNSOA logistics support, an additional 1,350 troops received mandatory human rights training in Kismaayo, bringing to 10,507 the total number of troops of the Somali national army who are eligible for UNSOA support. Additional Somali national army troops are expected to undergo human rights training in Dhobley and Ceelwaaq in September 2015.

83. There were no further contributions to the Trust Fund in support of AMISOM and the Somali national army during the reporting period. UNSOA has spent $14.65 million from the Trust Fund in support of the Somali national army in joint operations with AMISOM, pursuant to resolution 2124 (2013). As of 24 August, the balance in the AMISOM Trust Fund stood at $2.8 million, while the Somali national army Trust Fund is nearing depletion. The United States Government has signalled its intention to make a contribution of $15 million to the Somali national army Trust Fund.

84. As part of the UNSOA logistics support package, UNMAS continued to train, mentor and equip 13 AMISOM teams in improvised explosive device countermeasures and explosive ordnance disposal teams. During the reporting period, AMISOM responded to 92 emergency incidents involving improvised explosive devices and other explosive hazards. Mentors provided non-lethal combat engineering technical advice to the Force Enabling Unit resulting in the safe delivery of 2,452,165 kgs of cargo to the United Nations, the Federal Government and AMISOM/Somali national army.

85. UNMAS began to embed staff into AMISOM Force Headquarters, Sector Headquarters, and UNSOA, enabling it to provide better tactical advice and mapping on mobility and the threat of improvised explosive devices. UNMAS provided data, analysis and non-lethal technical advice to AMISOM to support mobility and resupply on main supply routes.

Human rights due diligence policy

86. As part of the mitigating measures of the policy, UNSOM delivered training on human rights and international humanitarian law to 318 officers of the Somali national army and a "training of trainers" workshop on human rights and international humanitarian law for 25 selected AMISOM trainers. The trainers have trained 1,600 newly integrated security forces in Jubaland. A three-day human rights training for 20 officers of the Criminal Investigation Department of the Somali police force was also delivered.

87. In June 2015, the Joint AMISOM/United Nations Working Group on the human rights due diligence policy adopted a report which maps existing measures and mechanisms to ensure compliance with the policy by AMISOM and the Somali

national army. The report identified gaps and further measures to improve implementation of the policy, including a standing agenda item to review allegations of human rights violations attributed to AMISOM. The Working Group met on 6 August following allegations against AMISOM in relation to its operations in July in Marka. On 20 August, the United Nations internal task force on the human rights due diligence policy met to identify further mitigation measures to prevent human rights violations by AMISOM troops and recommend corrective action.

VII. United Nations presence in Somalia

A. Expansion of the presence of the United Nations

88. During the reporting period, the number of international staff averaged 408 across Somalia, while the number of national staff averaged 1,024. The international staff average for Mogadishu was 275. There was a slight scaling back in presence in Puntland after the attack on the United Nations vehicle in Garoowe on 20 April.

B. Integration

89. The Joint Planning Unit of UNISOM and the Resident Coordinator's Office jointly developed a tool to monitor progress in the implementation of the Integrated Strategic Framework for Somalia. The first report was presented to the Senior Management Group on 2 June. Subsequent reports will be submitted for discussion every 120 days and will focus on identifying common challenges and providing recommendations that require action by the Senior Management Group.

90. Discussions are ongoing between UNSOM and the United Nations country team regarding joint deployments in the regions in order to maximize resources, based on integrated analysis and planning. UNSOM and the country team have developed regional strategic plans to guide programme delivery and assist regional authorities in their own planning efforts. Meanwhile, the United Nations in Somalia has designed a comprehensive risk management strategy with partners for all three trust funds under the New Deal Compact.

C. Staff safety and security

91. Following revised security risk assessments in Puntland and Somaliland, United Nations agencies worked hard to ensure continued programme delivery and access to local counterparts, while taking steps to address the increased security requirements of the minimum operating security standards.

92. In June, UNSOM and the United Nations country team conducted an exercise to revise the programme criticality framework for Somalia. The findings of the exercise were incorporated into security risk assessments and will inform ongoing deployment planning.

93. Amendments to the status-of-mission agreement covering the operation of the United Nations Guard Unit, and a memorandum of understanding on coordinating the operations of the Unit with those of the Somali security forces, were agreed between the United Nations and the Federal Government on 23 May.

94. All Department of Safety and Security core international staff posts were filled by mid-August 2015, while extra capacity was added to Mogadishu, Baidoa and Doolow. Extrabudgetary funding has been secured to the end of 2015 for the Medical Emergency Response Teams project.

VIII. Observations

95. Much progress has been achieved through the commitment of Somali leaders and ordinary Somalis, supported by the international community in a show of unity that is almost unparalleled. The administration of the first centralized examination since 1991 — the beginning of the civil war in Somalia — to some 7,000 secondary school students is a concrete example of a beginning of normalization, and hope, which are much needed in Somalia. The beginnings of a resurgence in the economic and social life of Mogadishu and other cities nationwide are a clear testimony of the commitment of the Somalis to rebuilding their society. Yet, no one should be complacent. Much more needs to be done to consolidate the gains and tackle the remaining challenges.

96. Ongoing joint military operations by the Somali national army and AMISOM have continued to create more territorial space for the Government to exercise its authority. I pay tribute to AMISOM and the Somali national army forces, who continue to make sacrifices, showing perseverance despite many challenges. Recent incidents, including the attack in Leego on 26 June and the Jazeera Palace Hotel suicide bombing on 26 July, are constant reminders of the danger we continue to face in Somalia.

97. I welcome the determination of both the Federal Government and the international community not to be daunted by the cowardly terrorist attacks. The people of Somalia continue to show tremendous resilience in the face of an enemy that does not respect human life, even during the holy month of Ramadan. At the same time, military operations alone will not address the threat of terrorism. I encourage Member States to consider what more can be done to ensure a truly comprehensive approach to Al-Shabaab, including supporting the emergence of a state that offers Somalis political inclusion, security, respect for human rights and economic opportunity.

98. Recent progress in the state formation process is commendable. I welcome the successful completion of the formation of the Galmudug Interim Administration in the central regions and highlight the leadership role played by the Federal Government in guiding the process. I urge the Federal Government and the Galmudug Interim Administration to continue reaching out to all groups in the region to further deepen inclusivity. As the Interim Juba Administration and the Interim South-West Administration continue to consolidate their administrations, I call upon the Federal Government to play a similarly enabling role. The launching of the process of forming an interim administration for Hiraan and Shabelle Dhexe regions is also encouraging. Achieving the establishment of functional federal member states is a critical building block for the conclusion of other political processes. I urge the Federal Government and the stakeholders to work closely in a cohesive and inclusive process towards that end.

99. The High-level Partnership Forum marked a significant political moment. Necessary actions were agreed upon to ensure that the "electoral process" in 2016 is

Somali-owned, more inclusive and representative than in 2012, and more orderly. Following the High-level Partnership Forum, the Federal Government finalized its action plan for the 2016 "electoral process" on 15 August after consulting the Parliament and interim regional administrations. Discussions are under way on how to move the plan forward, with the technical and financial support of the international community. I am pleased to note this agreement and urge all stakeholders to work expeditiously to implement the action plan.

100. In this context, the motion to impeach the President, introduced in the Parliament on 12 August, raises concerns about the stability of the political process. I add my voice to the joint statement issued by Somalia's international partners on 18 August on this issue and appeal to all the Somali stakeholders to remain focused on the urgent and pending priorities facing the country, including preparation for the 2016 "electoral process", completion of the state formation process and the fight against Al-Shabaab.

101. Continuing delays in the implementation of several other elements of the Vision 2016 inclusive politics framework remain problematic. In particular, the constitutional review process is a key area in which substantial progress needs to be made, especially since the key national implementing institutions are now in place. As part of this process, there is an urgent need to agree on a national security sector architecture with clearly defined roles and responsibilities of all security institutions in a federal Somalia. This should also provide a framework in which the accelerating militia integration can take place. This must include effective oversight and accountability mechanisms to prevent and address human rights violations.

102. I welcome the important commitments made by the Federal Government and the international community regarding the security sector during the High-level Partnership Forum. I urge all partners to commit to mobilizing resources for the implementation of the Guulwade Plan and the Heegan Plan upon its completion, as well as the work of the National Integration Commission. Current issues with the non-payment of salaries to the national security forces could have serious implications. I urge the Government and the international community to address the situation without delay and look forward to the work of the Security Sector Expenditure Task Force on addressing the issue of payments of salaries and stipends so that harmonized, sustainable and transparent national payroll and stipend systems can be developed.

103. The support of UNSOA to the Somali national army is playing an important role in enhancing the operational capacity of the national forces, especially at the present time when they, together with AMISOM, have launched an offensive to liberate territory from Al-Shabaab. I, once again, urge Member States to contribute generously to the Trust Fund to enable UNSOA to provide uninterrupted support to the Somali national army as authorized by the Council.

104. I remain concerned about the continuing practice of the death penalty in Somalia and call for an urgent moratorium to be implemented. I condemn the abuses committed by Al-Shabaab, in particular its frequent executions of civilians. I am deeply worried and concerned about reports of killings of civilians by the Somali security forces and AMISOM forces. I welcome recent actions by AMISOM and call upon the national authorities and AMISOM, where relevant, to continue investigating allegations of violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the context of military operations and to hold the perpetrators

accountable. I similarly urge accountability for violations and abuses attributable to foreign forces operating outside the AMISOM umbrella. The implementation of the human rights due diligence policy in Somalia is paramount to United Nations efforts in the country.

105. As outlined in my letter of 2 July to the Security Council and endorsed in resolution 2232 (2015), substantial contributions to the development and sustainment of the Somali police force are required. These must include short-term initiatives to jump-start the establishment of a police force in the regions, along with a recommended gradual reconfiguration of AMISOM towards more police personnel where appropriate. In collaboration with AMISOM, United Nations entities are developing detailed options for the implementation and delivery of a non-lethal support package for the Somali police force, which will be presented to the Council in September, as requested in its resolution 2232 (2015).

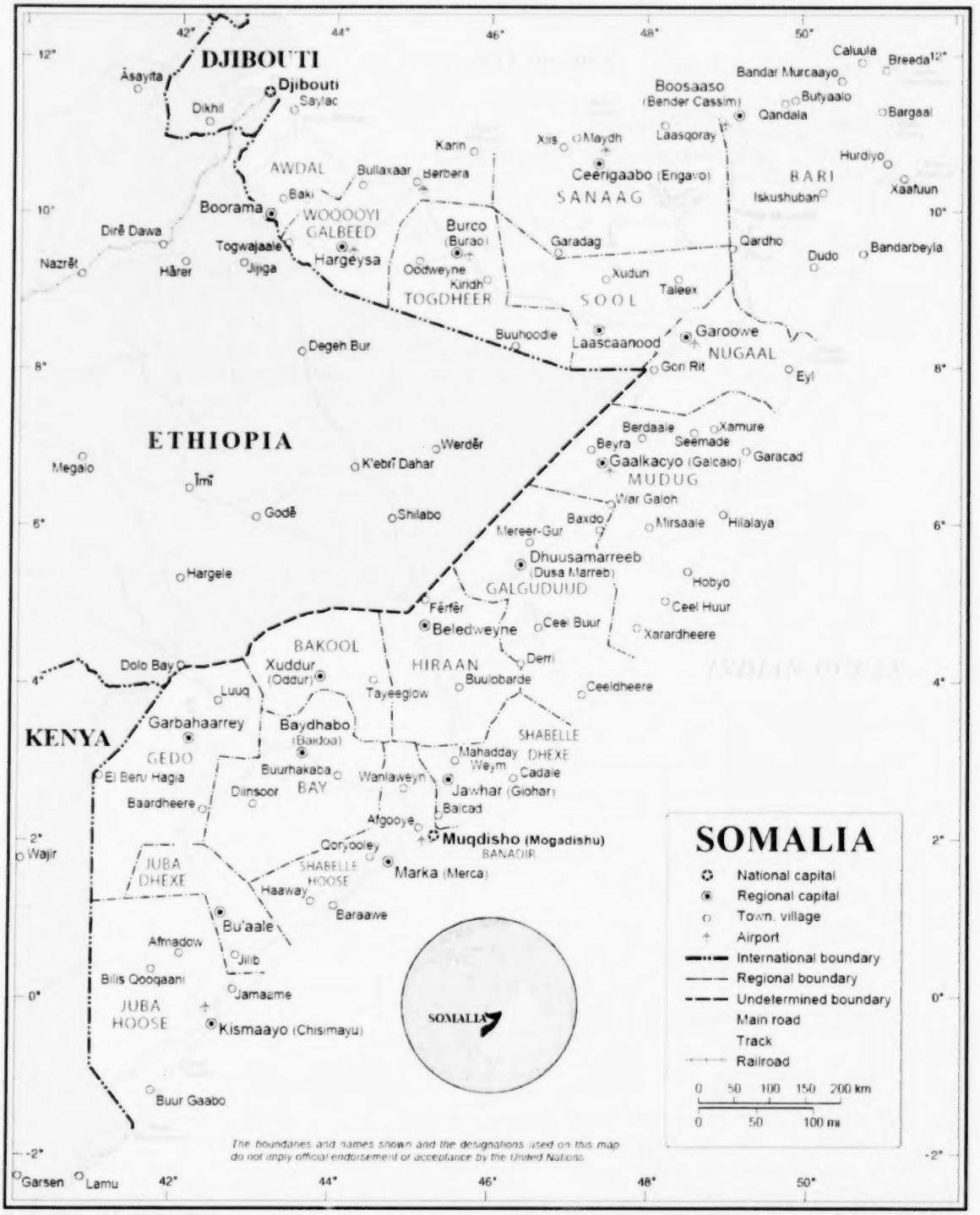
106. I remain extremely concerned at the fragile humanitarian situation in Somalia, which is being compounded by the crisis in Yemen, and at the increased rate of forced evictions and displacement prompted by the military offensive. Over 3 million people remain in need of humanitarian assistance. The potential humanitarian impact of El Niño is also of serious concern. I urge all parties to facilitate timely, unhindered and safe access for humanitarian actors and to find durable solutions for the 1.1 million Somalis who are internally displaced. I reiterate my appeal to donors to increase support to the $863 million humanitarian appeal, which is aimed at addressing the needs of over 2.8 million Somalis.

107. I am disappointed that in "Somaliland", the Supreme Court has ruled in favour of the *Guurti* to postpone presidential and parliamentary elections until March 2017. The decision was made despite international appeals against the postponement and risks jeopardizing the gains that the region has made in its democratization effort.

108. Numerous challenges notwithstanding, in recent months, Somalia has made some progress in women's political participation and leadership at the national and local levels. While much remains to be achieved, the inclusion and engagement of women in strategic positions, such as in the Interim Juba Administration and Galmudug state assemblies, the National Independent Electoral Commission and Federal and regional cabinets, are indications of slow but steady progress. Traditional elders and political leaders have a responsibility to help to redress the gender imbalance.

109. As I have stated in the past, the people of Somalia bear the ultimate responsibility for ushering in lasting peace, stability and national development in their country. Somalia has suffered long enough from painful past years of anarchy and destruction. The Somali leadership and representatives must live up to their responsibility of showing the political commitment and unity required to guide the process to a satisfactory conclusion in 2016. The international community stands ready to continue supporting Somalia.

110. I pay tribute to my Special Representative, Nicholas Kay, his deputies and the staff members of UNSOM, UNSOA and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other international and regional organizations in Somalia for their continued hard work under challenging conditions. I also thank the African Union, AMISOM, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the European Union and other development partners for their sustained support to the search for durable peace in Somalia. We must continue to strengthen our partnership in the quest for lasting peace and stability.



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